

FISCAL NOTE

HB 2762 - SB 2749

March 18, 2006

SUMMARY OF BILL: Prior to a person, who is acting as a surrogate, withholds nutrition or hydration from a patient, there must be a determination that there is not an identified relative of such patient who is willing to assume conservatorship. Priority for a conservator appointment shall be given to the patient's closest relative if the primary and independent physicians certify that artificial nutrition or hydration is unlikely to result in the patient's ability to regain capacity to make medical decisions.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures – Not Significant

Assumptions:

- Any increase in caseloads for the state trial courts would not be significant and can be absorbed within existing judicial resources.
- The Department of Health will not incur a significant increase to state expenditures revise health facility regulations.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James W. White". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "James" and last name "White" clearly legible.

James W. White, Executive Director